G. Robert Watkins

LATE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM PENNSYLVANIA

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Memorial Services

Held in the House of Representatives and Senate of the United States, together with tributes presented in eulogy of

G. Robert Watkins

Late a Representative From Pennsylvania

Ninety-first Congress
Second Session

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
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Contents

	Page
Biography	v
Proceedings in the House	1
Announcement of death by the Honorable Robert J. Corbett, of Pennsylvania	1
Committee appointed to attend funeral	16
Prayer by Rev. Edward G. Latch, D.D., chaplain of the House of Representatives	1
Resolution of respect	16
Tributes by Representatives:	
Albert, Carl, of Oklahoma	4
Anderson, John B., of Illinois	6
Arends, Leslie C., of Illinois	4
Ashbrook, John M., of Ohio	39
Biester, Edward G., Jr., of Pennsylvania	9
Blanton, Ray, of Tennessee	17
Bray, William G., of Indiana	20
Brotzman, Donald G., of Colorado	33
Broyhill, James T., of North Carolina	33
Buchanan, John, of Alabama	22
Byrne, James A., of Pennsylvania	36
Carter, Tim Lee, of Kentucky	30
Clancy, Donald D., of Ohio	35
Clawson, Del, of California	35
Corbett, Robert J., of Pennsylvania	1
Davis, Glenn R., of Wisconsin	25
Derwinski, Edward J., of Illinois	34
Eilberg, Joshua, of Pennsylvania	14
Eshleman, Edwin D., of Pennsylvania	37
Ford, Gerald R., of Michigan	2, 17
Goodling, George A., of Pennsylvania	7, 31
Gross, H. R., of Iowa	4
Grover, James R., Jr., of New York	27
Halpern, Seymour, of New York	33
Harvey, James, of Michigan	14
Hays, Wayne L., of Ohio	12
Heckler, Margaret M., of Massachusetts	23
Hunt, John E., of New Jersey	10, 19
Johnson, Albert W., of Pennsylvania	7
Landgrebe, Earl F., of Indiana	31

Proceedings in the House—Continued
Tributes by Representatives—Continued Page
McCormack, John W., of Massachusetts 3, 5
McDade, Joseph M., of Pennsylvania 8
McEwen, Robert C., of New York 28
Matsunaga, Spark M., of Hawaii 38
Miller, Clarence E., of Ohio 12
Montgomery, G. V. (Sonny), of Mississippi 13
Morgan, Thomas E., of Pennsylvania 13
Myers, John T., of Indiana 9, 21
O'Neill, Thomas P., Jr., of Massachusetts 34
Pelly, Thomas M., of Washington 38
Randall, Wm. J., of Missouri 28
Reid, Ogden R., of New York 30
Rhodes, John J., of Arizona 18
Riegle, Donald W., Jr., of Michigan 12
Rogers, Paul G., of Florida 32
Roudebush, Richard L., of Indiana 9
Ruth, Earl B., of North Carolina 12
Scherle, William J., of Iowa 22
Schneebeli, Herman T., of Pennsylvania 15
Scott, William L., of Virginia 38
Smith, Henry P., 3d, of New York 24
Springer, William L., of Illinois 6
Staggers, Harley O., of West Virginia 11
Wampler, William C., of Virginia 26
Williams, Lawrence G., of Pennsylvania 2, 25
Yatron, Gus, of Pennsylvania 12
Memorial addresses in the House of Representatives:
Biaggi, Mario, of New York 51
Collins, James M., of Texas 47
Coughlin, R. Lawrence, of Pennsylvania 48
Duncan, John J., of Tennessee 45
Garmatz, Edward A., of Maryland 43
King, Carleton J., of New York 52
McClory, Robert, of Illinois 45
Mailliard, William S., of California 50
Murphy, William T., of Illinois 51
Rooney, John J., of New York 52
Rostenkowski, Dan, of Illinois 53
Shriver, Garner E., of Kansas 50
Whalley, J. Irving, of Pennsylvania 44
Widnall, William B., of New Jersey 47
Wylie, Chalmers P., of Ohio 46
Proceedings in the United States Senate:
Appointment of committee to attend funeral 58
Message from the House of Representatives 57
Resolution of respect 57

Biography

GEORGE ROBERT WATKINS was born in Hampton, Va., May 21, 1902; attended the public schools of Hampton; when 9 years old sold newspapers to the crews of vessels anchored in Newport News Harbor; learned the trade of shipfitter; went to Chester, Pa., in 1920 and organized the Chester Stevedoring Co., which was sold in 1931; in 1932 organized with a partner the Blue Line Transfer Co., operating a fleet of trucks to all points in the East; served a 4-year term as sheriff of Delaware County, 1945–48; member of the State senate for three 4-year terms, 1949–60; served a 4-year term as county commissioner, 1960–64; operator of a 60-acre farm in Delaware County and was a breeder of thoroughbred horses; elected as a Republican to the 89th, 90th, and 91st Congresses, serving from January 3, 1965, until his death in West Chester, Pa., August 7, 1970; interment in Birmingham-Lafayette Cemetery, Birmingham Township, Pa.

MEMORIAL SERVICES
FOR
G. ROBERT WATKINS

Proceedings in the House

MONDAY, *August 10, 1970.*

The House met at 12 o'clock noon.

The Chaplain, Rev. Edward G. Latch, D.D., offered the following prayer:

Finally, brethren, be of one mind, live in peace: and the God of love and peace shall be with you.—II Corinthians 13: 11.

O God, who art the light of all who put their trust in Thee and the life of those who walk in Thy way, we draw near to Thee in the quiet of this moment of prayer seeking strength and wisdom for the tasks of this day.

We bring to Thee our responsibilities to ourselves, to one another, and to our country, and we would see them in the light of Thy will for us. Empowered by Thy spirit we would carry them with honor to Thee, to our Nation, and to ourselves.

Again we bow in sorrow at the remembrance of our beloved colleague who has gone to his eternal home. We thank Thee for his presence in our midst and for the contribution he made to our country as a Member of this body. Comfort his family with the assurance of Thy spirit and strengthen them for this experience and for the days that lie ahead.

In the Master's name we pray. Amen.

Mr. CORBETT. Mr. Speaker, it is my very sad duty to announce the sudden death Friday evening of G. ROBERT WATKINS of the Ninth District of Pennsylvania.

All of us knew him as BOB WATKINS, and found him to be a very congenial friend and a very clear-thinking legislator. The fact that the people of his county recognized his ability and loved him is proved by the fact that he was elected sheriff of his county, he served three terms in the Pennsylvania State Senate, then was elected a commissioner of Delaware County, Pa., and following that was elected to the 89th, 90th, and 91st Congresses. He is survived by his wife,

Hilda Jane, his sons, Robert G. and Dwain. It is a gross understatement to say that those of us who knew him here will miss him most profoundly, and we extend our deepest sympathies to his wife and family.

Mr. GERALD R. FORD. Mr. Speaker, I was shocked and saddened by the announcement of the news that BOB WATKINS had passed away. I had talked with him on a number of occasions just last week. He seemed healthy, vigorous, and in his usual good spirits. I will miss a close and a dear friend, and I believe the House as a whole will miss a stalwart Member.

We all extend to his widow and to his family our deepest condolences.

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, in the death of the Honorable G. ROBERT WATKINS last Friday evening, the Nation lost a dedicated public servant, the people of the Ninth Congressional District of Pennsylvania lost an outstanding representative, and all of us lost a great colleague—and I lost a close personal friend.

No one in this distinguished body can feel this loss more personally than I. It was my privilege to know and to work with BOB WATKINS for the past 25 years.

The Honorable G. ROBERT WATKINS, known to his friends as "BOB," was a fine example of the personal success and the public service which a man can achieve under the incomparable American free enterprise way of life in which he so firmly believed.

I knew him in his various capacities as county sheriff, State senator, county commissioner, Member of Congress; and it was a pleasure to work with him as a fellow political leader in Delaware County, Pa.

I knew him as a hard-working man who, starting with absolutely nothing in the material sense, employed the intelligence, good judgment, and driving energy to develop an outstanding business career which made him wealthy and which gave employment to many other people.

At the time of his demise, BOB WATKINS owned the Blue Line Transfer Co. which, with headquarters in Chester, was involved in extensive operations in Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, and Maryland. He also started a successful truck franchise sales and service company which is now owned and operated by his sons, Robert G. and Dwain.

I knew him as a man whose first job was as an apprentice shipfitter, as a man who progressed from salesman to manager of a coffee and tea company in 5 years, as a man whose youthful athletic ability carried him to renown as an excellent baseball pitcher, and as a man whose love of horses led to great success as a breeder of fine thoroughbreds at his paddock acres estate in Delaware County.

I knew Bob Watkins as a man whose inborn love of his country and deep patriotism caused him to enlist in the Army during World War I and be well along in his basic training before it was discovered that he was an underage enlistee.

And certainly, I knew Bob Watkins as a man deeply devoted to his wife, Jane, and to their sons, Robert G. and Dwain. I remember, well, that it was only recently that Bob and Jane achieved that which, for them, was the magnificent milestone of their golden wedding anniversary.

I am, indeed, grateful that, throughout this past quarter century, I have been privileged to have known, to have worked with, and to have served with, the Honorable G. Robert Watkins, most of all, I am grateful that, throughout the years, I have been able to call him my friend.

I shall miss him, as we all will, and I take this moment to extend my deepest sympathy to Jane, Bob, and Dwain.

Mr. CORBETT. I was told by the Speaker earlier today that under the rules of the House, it is required that a discharge petition come up immediately following the reading of the Journal.

But that I would be recognized for 1 minute at this time.

It has been decided that on Thursday, after Bob's funeral, we will take time for eulogies.

Mr. McCORMACK. The gentleman has made a correct statement. But, as I have said, I view these things, recognizing the sentiments and feelings that are involved. So if any of our colleagues desire to speak now, as well as others who may wish to eulogize our departed colleague later in the week, I am sure they would appreciate it because I would like to say a few words at this time.

Mr. ALBERT. Mr. Speaker, I realize that we shall have time at a later date to pay tribute to our distinguished and beloved friend. Today, however, I join in the expressions of shock and sorrow shared by all Members on learning that our colleague had passed away suddenly last Friday. Congressman WATKINS was one of the kindest, friendliest, and most beloved persons I have known since I became a Member of Congress. He will be sadly missed by his many friends on both sides of the aisle. I extend my sympathy to Mrs. Watkins and their family.

Mr. GROSS. Mr. Speaker, it is still almost impossible for me to believe that our colleague and a man I was proud to call my friend, the Honorable G. ROBERT WATKINS, has departed from among us.

Only last Thursday afternoon did we have a long visit on the House floor. We discussed legislation that was to be considered this week and speculated as to the legislation that would be undertaken following Labor Day and the recess of the House that is to begin this week. He appeared in excellent health. There was no portent of death that was to overtake him the next day.

BOB WATKINS was another of those who literally lifted himself by his own bootstraps. From humble, hard-working experiences as a youth he rose to position of eminence both in business and in politics. He was a true conservative and a great American.

By reason of his untimely death, the State of Pennsylvania and the Nation has lost one of its foremost citizens and I have lost a friend.

To Mrs. Watkins and the members of the family I extend heartfelt sympathy.

Mr. ARENDS. Mr. Speaker, I was shocked and saddened to learn of the passing of my good friend BOB WATKINS, our distinguished colleague from Pennsylvania. He was to me more than a good friend, more than a great friend. He was a beloved friend for whom I had the deepest affection as well as great respect and admiration.

We often hear it said of those who serve in Congress that "he is a man of the people." No man served in Congress to whom this appellation more appropriately applies than BOB WATKINS. As a boy no older than 9, he sold newspapers to the crews of the harbored vessels at Hampton, Va., where he was born. Upon his family moving to Pennsylvania he organized a "stevedore" company and subsequently

owned and operated a trucking business. He understood what it was to labor. He understood the common man as few men are given to understand. He was one of them. He loved them and they loved him. This was quite evident to me upon an occasion when I was privileged to be a guest speaker in his district.

In the fullest sense he was, to borrow a line from the scriptures, "the salt of the earth." It must be recognized that in biblical days the two most precious commodities to a man were fertile land and salt. Bob Watkins was indeed "the salt of the earth" to all who knew him. He had an understanding and a compassion possessed by few men.

He always sat is a seat in the upper right-hand corner of the floor on our side of the aisle. He was invariably surrounded by a group of us of somewhat common interests. He was inspiring to talk to. He was inspiring just to know.

Mr. Speaker, this House has lost a really great American. He was a member of the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee and a member of the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee. He brought to the work of both of these committees a very unique knowledge. It was a knowledge acquired from a lifetime of experience with the shipping and trucking industry.

As stated in the book of Matthew:

> He was the salt of the earth: but when the salt has lost its savour, wherewith shall it be salted.

Mr. Speaker, wherewith shall we find such a man as this. A man of the people, devoted to the cause of the people and who served exemplarily in their behalf in the Congress. He was in the fullest sense an outstanding public servant.

I share the personal loss of his fine family and express to them my deepest sympathy.

I was proud to call him my friend.

Mr. McCORMACK. Mr. Speaker, I was very sorry to learn of the death of our dear friend Bob Watkins. He was one of the kindest gentlemen I have ever met in the journey of life. Only last Thursday I chatted with him as we were leaving the Capitol. About 2 weeks prior to that, as we know, he had had a fall and had injured his leg. I happened to meet him as he was leaving to go to his office. He was limping, and I said, "Bob, have you had an accident?"

He told me about the accident to his leg.

I said, "Come into the car. You don't want to walk over to your office. Ride along with me."

Last Thursday I talked with him again and asked him how he felt. He said that his leg was feeling better.

I said "Bob, do you want me to give you a lift over to your office?"

He said, "I have my own car."

He was one of the finest gentlemen that any one of us could ever meet in the journey of life. He was quiet but dedicated. In my years of service in the House I have never served with anyone who was more dedicated than Bob Watkins or one who had a finer and broader outlook on life or a kinder disposition than he did.

I have already sent a telegram to Mrs. Watkins extending to her and her sons, not only for myself but for all Members of the House of Representatives, our deep sympathy. I again express to the Pennsylvania delegation my deep sympathy in their loss, and also again to Mrs. Watkins and her two sons I wish to say how deeply I feel for them in their bereavement.

Mr. ANDERSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I share in the deep sense of loss that has been expressed not only by the Speaker of the House but by other Members of this body on the passing of our friend and colleague, G. Robert Watkins. Bob was truly a warm, winsome, and engaging personality. He had both a ready smile and a ready wit. I shall miss him very much in this body. I take this opportunity briefly at this time to express not only my feelings of loss but my deep sense of sympathy to Mrs. Watkins, their sons, and to the members of the Pennsylvania delegation.

Mr. SPRINGER. Mr. Speaker, Bob Watkins was a dedicated man. He was a member of the committee of which I happen to be the ranking member. Only on last Thursday I asked him if he would be sure to be present this morning when a subcommittee was meeting, and to be sure to represent me at that meeting. He assured me that he would. I know that had this not happened to him, he would have been there this morning, keeping his word, as he always did.

On the committee he was one of those who was not only dedicated to good Government; he was one who kept his word. He was one upon whom we all relied in the committee for advice. We shall deeply miss Bob Watkins on the committee of which I am a member.

I do extend to his wife and to all of his family the deepest sympathy not only of myself but the members of the committee, both Republican and Democrat, all of whom were exceedingly proud to have him as a member.

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, the passing of the Honorable G. ROBERT WATKINS, my very good friend and our esteemed colleague, leaves me stricken with deep sadness.

I had known Congressman WATKINS longer than I have any other Member of Congress. I found him to be a deep and understanding person, consistently fair in his dealings with people and problems. He had a rare talent for friendship and great ability. Everyone in this Chamber had a fondness for him, just as they enjoyed working with him on complex legislative programs.

G. ROBERT WATKINS was a superb legislator, combining natural ability with long service in the field of legislation. The people of the Ninth Congressional District of Pennsylvania can point with great pride to the record that this exceptional legislator has made in the Congress through his service in their behalf and in the interest of the total American citizenry.

Congressman WATKINS was a real tower of strength in a good cause, and a bulwark of opposition to a bad one. Through it all, however, he was always a perfect gentleman, having high regard and respect for others, including those with whom he disagreed.

He was forceful in action and wise in counsel, and he had great wit. I had the privilege of enjoying his company not only here in the House of Representatives but also social events. In or out of the legislative Chamber, he was always the same—friendly, alert, and witty.

While Congressman WATKINS took his work seriously, he never took himself the same way. It was in his nature to lighten a heavy load and to introduce clarity to complex problems.

The citizens of Pennsylvania's Ninth Congressional District have lost a superb Representative, this Chamber has lost an excellent legislator, and I have lost a very close friend.

Mr. JOHNSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, we of the Pennsylvania delegation to Congress were shocked and saddened by the sudden death of our dear friend and colleague, G. ROBERT WATKINS, of Delaware County, Pa.

I first met Bob when he was a member of the Senate of Pennsylvania representing Delaware County. He was a brilliant and highly respected member of this body. Being a very able speaker, and a man of wide experience in business and government, he made a valuable contribution to the operation of the senate, to the great advantage of the people of Pennsylvania. He gave of his time and talents willingly and was widely recognized as one of the ablest members of the senate.

He left the senate to become a member of the board of county commissioners of Delaware County. This was made necessary because of the rapid growth of this county, with many new situations created as a result of this expansion, which required a man of the stature and ability of Bob Watkins to administer.

Finally the call came to represent his district in the Congress of the United States. In 1964 he came to this Congress with a background of experience, which made him just the right person to serve in this capacity. In the Congress Bob soon became an admired and warm friend to many of his colleagues, and gave unlimited advice and counsel to us all.

He was much sought after by the Members for direction and guidance as they approached their own individual problems, or the business of the day in the House of Representatives. For this and many other reasons, Bob will be sorely missed by his many friends. The Congress has lost one of its finest Members.

And, now, may I express to his family my deepest sympathy in their great loss, and for my own part, I have lost one of my dearest friends, and now that he is gone, I wish that I could have had an even greater association with him.

Mr. McDADE. Mr. Speaker, I was deeply grieved and filled with sorrow over this weekend to learn of the unfortunate and untimely death of my colleague, the Honorable Robert Watkins of the Ninth Congressional District of Pennsylvania.

But knowing Bob here in Washington has been for me, as it has been for other Members of the House and Senate as well as for members of the executive branch, an experience that will not soon be forgotten.

He was a man who was always cheerful. He was a man of warmth, of compassion, of friendliness. This was the man we met and knew when he guided us so often in our work of making this a better Nation.

His was a life in the classic American dream of a man who would achieve success and distinction in the widest possible variety of endeavors. From humble origins he worked at building a great and successful transportation enterprise. From those same humble origins he rose to give a lifetime to public service on every level of government, as a sheriff of Delaware County, as a county commissioner, as a State senator, and finally as a Representative in the Congress of the United States.

He was an avid sportsman, interested in all the vigorous activity connected with athletics. And for more than 30 years he has bred thoroughbred horses at his home in Pennsylvania.

Above all things, he was a great and loving family man. I join his beloved wife Hilda, and his sons, Robert and Dwain, in their sorrow at the passing of Bob. He was a man whose passing has made all of us poorer; he was a fine, and warm, and decent human being.

Mr. BIESTER. Mr. Speaker, I learned with deep sadness of the unexpected and tragic death of our colleague, Bob Watkins. I shall miss his warmth. This House will miss his warm and cheerful presence.

At a time in our Nation's history when the forces of division are strong, we need the amiable, warm spirit that Bob so continuously exuded. I hope, Mr. Speaker, that those of us who have been touched by Bob's warm spirit will carry it with us as we work in this Chamber in the future so that his example of cheerfulness and fellowship may help us to heal the division afflicting our land.

Mr. MYERS. Mr. Speaker, the House of Representatives, the Ninth Congressional District of Pennsylvania, and the Nation have lost a true and dedicated friend, G. Robert Watkins. Bob was one of the most sincere and kindest Members of this House. He went about the responsibilities of his office in a most quiet and efficient way. Because of this, many here never really learned to know the real Bob Watkins. That has been their loss, but an even greater loss in his passing, ending his service to the country he loved so much.

I join today his many friends of this body and the Nation in extending our heartfelt sorrow to his wife, sons, and grandchildren. May God's blessings be with them at this time of their bereavement.

Mr. ROUDEBUSH. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to take a few moments to pay tribute to a great Congressman, a great American,

and a dear friend of mine, Congressman BOB WATKINS, of Pennsylvania, who died last Friday.

From 1946 until last Friday, he devoted his life to helping the people of his State as an elected official.

First, as sheriff, then as a State senator, then as chairman of the board of county commissioners, and finally, as a Member of the House of Representatives.

BOB WATKINS loved Pennsylvania.

He loved his country.

And people loved him.

Several years ago, a group of us formed sort of a supper club. We got together for dinner each evening after the House adjourned, if we did not have commitments.

BOB WATKINS was a leader of this group.

My hours with him can never be replaced.

Not only did he offer good counsel but he presented me with an outlook on life and a gift of brotherhood which will stay with me for the rest of my life.

BOB WATKINS was not a loner.

BOB WATKINS was a man with thousands of friends.

Because once you met him, he was your friend.

Joseph McCaffrey, newscaster for radio station, WMAL, of Washington, summed it up, when on his program "Meet the Member," he said:

ROBERT WATKINS has the personality that was made for politics, or for that matter, made for success in any field. He meets people with that ease only a few men can master.

He never meets a stranger.

WATKINS enjoys being a Member of Congress, saying:

"I think it is a great privilege. I cherish it, although I admit that the seniority system is the rule and I don't have many years here, but still I believe it is the most important office a man can be elected to, and an office where he can do some good for the average man and woman."

To friend BOB I say farewell and may God bless you. To his wife and family I offer my most sincere condolences.

Mr. HUNT. Mr. Speaker, I will not make any remarks about my good friend, BOB WATKINS, at this time. I shall do so at some later date, but I do wish to have inserted in the Record the information pertaining to the services for BOB WATKINS.

The services will be held at the William S. Bleyer Funeral Home, 500 West 22d Street, Chester, Pa. The viewing will be Tuesday night, August 11, 1970, between the hours of 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. The Masonic services will be held at 8 p.m. sharp.

The funeral will be at the Bleyer Funeral Home on Wednesday morning, August 12, 1970, at 10 a.m.

Mr. STAGGERS. Mr. Speaker, again it becomes our sad fate to pause in contemplation of the uncertainty of human life. Man is as a flower, which is soon cut down, as the Psalmist remarked. "He is a shadow which continueth not." As of yesterday, BOB WATKINS was in the prime of life, with every reason for long years of success and honor. Today he is not among the mortal. While he thought, perchance, that his career was aspiring, he fell, like autumn leaves, to enrich his mother earth. His place among us, his comrades, in the bosom of his family, and with the good people of his native State, is vacant and empty. They shall know him no more. May his good deeds in the flesh be a lasting monument to his memory.

Congessman WATKINS made a success of life in a variety of occupations, both civil and political. Integrity and honor followed him all the days of his life. His constituents from the Ninth Pennsylvania District have reason to respect his judgment and his devotion to their interests. As a colleague of mine in the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee, I had learned to appreciate his close attention to his assignments, his keen intelligence in grasping the essentials of controversial issues, and his determination to follow the right as he saw it. We shall miss his sagacity in the committee and his continuing efforts to find an acceptable solution for our problems. He was an agreeable man, a man easy to work with, a credit to himself and to his duty. I am happy that I could list him as a friend, loyal, and dependable.

To his loving family and close friends, we offer whatever feeble consolation there may lie in our assurance that he was a statesman in every sense of the word, and that he left a record of faithfulness and honor which cannot be erased. May time assuage your sorrow and give you opportunity to enjoy the satisfaction in accomplishment which was denied him.

Mr. RUTH. Mr. Speaker, as a new Member of Congress, I found BOB WATKINS most helpful. This Chamber will miss both his counsel and his sense of humor. I am proud to have acquired his friendship.

Mrs. Ruth and I send our sympathy to the Watkins family.

Mr. HAYS. Mr. Speaker, I was shocked and saddened to hear of the death of our friend, the gentleman from Pennsylvania, BOB WATKINS, who has not been here many terms, but through his personality and his conviviality he made a great many friends in the House of Representatives. I was proud to know him and call him my friend. He will be greatly missed.

Mr. Speaker, I extend to his family my deepest sympathy.

Mr. RIEGLE. Mr. Speaker, I, too, join my colleagues in paying tribute to BOB WATKINS. I thought BOB WATKINS was a good fellow and a good man to have here in Congress. I know I feel a sense of loss when I look on our side of the aisle today and do not find our good friend BOB WATKINS there. I will miss him.

My sympathy goes to his family at this sad time.

Mr. YATRON. Mr. Speaker, the people of Pennsylvania's Ninth District, our State's congressional delegation and the House of Representatives have lost an able and experienced public servant.

The passing last weekend of G. ROBERT WATKINS, with whom I had the great pleasure of serving in both Pennsylvania State Legislature and the U.S. Congress, is a tragic loss to his colleagues, to his constituents in Chester and Delaware Counties, and to his many friends throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the Nation.

A successful businessman, a county commissioner and for 12 years an effective State senator, BOB WATKINS was completing his third term in the House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in paying tribute to this dedicated Member of Congress and want to extend to Mrs. Watkins, their two sons, and other members of their family my deepest sympathy.

Mr. MILLER of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, Friday, Congress suffered the loss of one of its most distinguished Members. For me, the news of the death of Representative G. ROBERT WATKINS was especially acute, because he was not only a colleague but a neighbor. Our years serving together in the House of Representatives blended with the

countless additional occasions outside the Capitol Halls when we discussed issues of mutual importance to our districts. Congressman WATKINS' dedication to his constituents in the Ninth District of Pennsylvania was evident in his legislative record and his individual attention to their concerns. BOB WATKINS not only knew his people, but knew their problems. As a former county sheriff and commissioner and as a member of the Pennsylvania State Senate for three 4-year terms, he brought to Congress an understanding and insight which enabled him to represent his district to the fullest. At the time of his death, he was a member of the important House Interstate and Foreign Commerce, and Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committees. I knew BOB WATKINS as a friend, a neighbor, and a very capable Congressman, but even more, I knew him for what he was most to us all: An American, through and through.

Mr. MONTGOMERY. Mr. Speaker, on a Thursday morning, July 23, 1970, G. ROBERT WATKINS talked to the congressional prayer breakfast group. He gave a wonderful inspirational talk to his fellow Members.

It was a talk that I believe I shall never forget. BOB WATKINS used no notes, but talked from what was in his heart. By his remarks that day, we all knew he was trully a God-fearing man who wanted to let us know of his strong religious feelings.

Mr. Speaker, BOB WATKINS will be missed by all of us here in the House, but we are better off for having known him even though it was for only a short time.

My thoughts are with Mrs. Watkins and their two sons during this very sad time.

Mr. MORGAN. Mr. Speaker, the sudden and untimely passing of our colleague, ROBERT WATKINS, comes as a shock to all of us. During his three terms in the House of Representatives he had won our respect and friendship. He was a conscientious, hard-working Member whose dedication to public service began many years ago. As a Member of Congress, ROBERT WATKINS brought with him to this House a rich and varied background of experience. Starting as a newsboy at the age of 9, he learned the trade of shipfitter, headed the Chester Stevedoring Co., and in 1932, organized the Blue Line Transfer Co. He served 4 years as sheriff of Delaware County and was a member of the State senate for 12 years. He also served a 4-

year term as county commissioner. The knowledge and experience so gained helped him when he came to the House of Representatives. He came equipped with a deep knowledge of the problems and needs of his district and State and a broad view of national and international affairs. It was only natural for him to seek and gain membership on the Interstate and Foreign Commerce and Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committees on both of which he served with industry and distinction.

I regarded ROBERT WATKINS as one of my dearest and closest friends and am deeply saddened by his sudden passing. To his wife and sons, I wish to extend my heartfelt condolences.

Mr. HARVEY. Mr. Speaker, the sudden passing of our colleague, G. ROBERT WATKINS, last Friday evening is still difficult to comprehend and accept. My wife, June, joins me in extending our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Watkins and their two sons.

As one who served with BOB on the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, I had the advantage of learning from an outstanding gentleman the art of firmness dealt only under reasonable and fair conditions.

Together, we served on the Subcommittee on Commerce and Finance, where no one surpassed BOB WATKINS in desire and dedication to produce good legislation. It shall be a difficult task, I know, to replace him.

I shall always recall with fondness and appreciation the privilege that was mine in knowing BOB WATKINS. He was a great Congressman and a truly fine gentleman. His presence shall be sorely missed.

Mr. EILBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the loss of BOB WATKINS. He was known to us all for his good works and benign spirit. He had a full and productive life, a veritable testament that Horatio Alger heroes can still rise up in the world among us. He was born of humble parentage in Hampton, Va., as one of four children, on May 21, 1902. His first business experience was that of selling newspapers to the crews of vessels anchored in the harbor. As a young man, he learned the trade of shipfitter in the city of Newport News, but BOB WATKINS had his aspirations set on bigger things.

He moved to Chester, Pa., shortly thereafter marrying the former Hilda Jane Smerbeck of Pittsburgh. Between 1920 and 1931, BOB WATKINS ran a concern that he had begun: The Chester Stevedor-

ing Co. In 1932, with a partner, he organized and headed the Blue Line Transfer Co., operating hundreds of trucks to all points in the East. But once again Bob Watkins was not satisfied, for he had come from humble people and it was not enough for him to separate himself from them and live in a big house on a hill. He believed that his calling was to serve the people, regardless of their party affiliation or ideological beliefs. Thus, he became sheriff of Delaware County for a 4-year term and, after that, served as a member of the State senate for three 4-year terms. He also served a 4-year term as county commissioner.

He was elected to the 89th Congress on November 3, 1964, bucking the Democratic landslide of that year, thus demonstrating that the people of Delaware County, Pa., trusted G. Robert Watkins more than any party label. He served from then until the present, dying, unfortunately, this last Sunday, after completing a speech to the folks back home. G. Robert Watkins might thus be said to have died in harness, as all of us here in Congress might wish to go: serving the people who have placed such trust in us until the very end.

He was a great and a good man, and I, a Democrat, would like to say that I felt as much in common with this wonderful man, who was a Republican, as I have ever felt with any other holder of public office. He was very conscientious, but what stands out in my mind just now is his humanness, his warmth. We shall miss him. People like Bob Watkins, no matter what party they belong to or what positions they take on issues of the day, are the dependable human backbone of any Congress, and I would like to express my condolence for the loss of a fine man and dedicated public servant, to his wife, Hilda, and to his children, Robert G. and Dwain Joseph Watkins.

Mr. SCHNEEBELI. Mr. Speaker, I was shocked and saddened to learn of the recent death of our friend and colleague, Hon. G. Robert Watkins.

Bob Watkins was a big man with a big heart. He had many outstanding qualities, and in his role as Congressman his loyalty and thoughtful regard and actions toward his colleagues were refreshing. Considered a "conservative" in his political philosophy, he was a strong leader of more than a dozen House Republicans who embrace a similar outlook.

He was respected by all for his dependability, charity, and friendliness. A great conversationalist and fine story teller, he had a vast fund of knowledge and fascinating experiences; he was graduated from the practical "school of hard knocks" with high honors.

His death leaves a void for all of us who knew him, which cannot be filled.

Mr. SAYLOR. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

HOUSE RESOLUTION 1183

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of the Honorable G. ROBERT WATKINS, a Representative from the State of Pennsylvania.

Resolved, That a committee of 63 Members of the House, with such Members of the Senate as may be joined, be appointed to attend the funeral.

Resolved, That the Sergeant at Arms of the House be authorized and directed to take such steps as may be necessary for carrying out the provisions of these resolutions and that the necessary expenses in connection therewith be paid out of the contingent fund of the House.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

The resolutions were agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair appoints as members of the funeral committee the following Members on the part of the House: Messrs. Corbett, Albert, Gerald R. Ford, Boggs, Arends, Fulton of Pennsylvania, Morgan, Barrett, Saylor, Byrne of Pennsylvania, Flood, Clark, Dent, Nix, Moorhead, Schneebeli, Whalley, McDade, Rooney of Pennsylvania, Johnson of Pennsylvania, Green of Pennsylvania, Vigorito, Goodling, Biester, Eilberg, Eshleman, Williams, Gaydos, Coughlin, Yatron, Garmatz, Staggers, Boland, O'Neill of Massachusetts, Devine, Downing, Pirnie, Randall, Ashbrook, Clancy, Harvey, Shriver, Waggonner, Broyhill of North Carolina, Patten, Van Deerlin, Del Clawson, Stanton, Brown of Ohio, Kyl, Schadeberg, Burke of Florida, Hunt, Kuykendall, Miller of Ohio, Montgomery, Riegle, Sandman, Scherle, Thompson of Georgia, Wylie, Landgrebe, Ruth.

The Clerk will report the remaining resolution.

The Clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That as a further mark of respect the House do now adjourn.

The resolution was agreed to.

The SPEAKER. Under previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. Goodling), is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I have asked for this special time in order that Members who wish to do so may pay their respects to my very good friend and your very good friend, BOB WATKINS. At this time I would be happy to yield to any Member who desires recognition.

Mr. GERALD R. FORD. The other day, following the death of our dear friend, BOB WATKINS, I had an opportunity to make some comments concerning him and his record. On this occasion I would like to amplify those expressions of feeling and repeat my deep, deep sympathy for his wife and family in this hour of tragedy.

I did not know BOB WATKINS as I have known a good many Members in the House of Representatives with whom I serve. But in the short period that we were friends, I developed a great affection and admiration for him. I, among many others, will miss him a very, very great deal. He was a person who wore well. He was a person who had the courage of a lion, and yet he had the manner of a perfect gentleman.

I will never forget the place that he occupied in this Chamber, because if we needed help on any legislative matter, we knew where he was, and if he possibly could, he would rise to the occasion and vote to help either the President or those of us on this side of the aisle. If he thought it was in the national interest, he would vote his conscience under any and all circumstances.

Mr. Speaker, let me say in conclusion we have lost a fine legislator and a good friend. I extend again to his lovely wife and to his family our deepest condolences.

Mr. BLANTON. Mr. Speaker, it has been my sincere privilege to be able to serve on the Subcommittee on Commerce and Finance of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce with the late distinguished gentleman from Pennsylvania. I say this with the utmost humility. If ever I have seen a man who was a man's man, BOB WATKINS was a man's man. He stood head and shoulders, he stood solid when he made his commitment, his word was his bond,

he was a sound man, he was an honest man, and he was a straightforward man—no varnish, but straightforward. Sincere is a very inadequate word to describe him.

I extend my condolences to his family. Just last week he was talking with me about his sons and his business. It was always a pleasure for me to discuss with him our friends and our families whenever we had the time and whenever the occasion would permit. We have fought for the same purposes many times in our subcommittee and the same bills, and I have always known Bob would be there, solid, well prepared, and very effective.

Again I extend to the family my sincerest and deepest regrets. It is a great loss to me and to this body.

Mr. RHODES. Mr. Speaker, it is with a great sense of personal loss that I join my good friend, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. Goodling), in commenting on the service and life of our departed friend, who has left this Chamber and this earth.

Bob Watkins was a good man in every sense of the word. He was a big man physically, but even more than that he was a big man mentally and morally. When he made up his mind, he had always thought over the problem carefully, and then there was not any doubt in anybody's mind as to what his decision was, because he would let people know.

He was a man who will be missed, not only by the Members of this House, but also by the constituents of his district and the citizens of the great Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Even more than that he will be missed by the people of this country who rely so much on the statesmanship of the Members of this House, who will miss Bob Watkins as the years go by, because he was a great statesman and a man who had deep convictions and the ability to set forth those convictions.

On top of that—and I think this may be about as important a comment as can be made—he was a blithe spirit. Because of his being here, we all felt better, and because of the work he did, we all were better.

It is with a deep sense of sorrow and a personal sense of loss that I join my colleagues in extending my personal sympathy to his family and extend to them the condolences which come from a true faith in the Almighty and the assurance that here was a great man whose

life they shared and whose life we shared and whose passing is mourned by many people throughout the United States.

Mr. HUNT. I want to tell the Members this evening a little bit about the man, BOB WATKINS, as I knew him. I believe I have known him as well as anyone in this House.

I met BOB WATKINS back in the middle 1930's. I knew him as a fine, hard-working businessman, as a sheriff of his county, later as a legislator in Harrisburg, and as a commissioner in his county, and later as a Member of the House of Representatives.

At no time during my acquaintanceship with BOB WATKINS did I ever have any reason to doubt his sincerity, his honesty, or his utmost devotion to his family and to his country. I have never heard a man have a bad word for BOB WATKINS.

Those Members of the House who knew him must realize now that the gentleman who sat in the far corner on the right-hand side of this Chamber—a portion of this Chamber referred to by some Members, in jocularity, as the hard corner—will recognize the fact that the man in himself was one we can never replace. A man like BOB WATKINS comes along once in a lifetime.

He was a true friend, and he was steadfast in his convictions. In the last few months of his earthly life BOB WATKINS was extremely happy. He had celebrated his 50th wedding anniversary with his lovely wife Hilda Jane and their family. He had been a speaker at the congressional prayer breakfast in this very House. He had been engaged in a political fight which had been satisfactorily resolved. He had made a speech to a ladies' group in his home district and had completed a successful and very enjoyable evening by making the speech. Then suddenly he was stricken and removed from our midst.

I knew him as a God-fearing man. I realize now what people mean when they say that some persons are ready to meet their Maker. I know that GEORGE ROBERT WATKINS was ready to meet his Maker.

But the pathetic part of it is that we were not ready to lose him. I know my grief and my sorrow are shared by many people, not only those in the House of Representatives but also the people who work in and about the Capitol here and the people in his district, the people he met wherever he met them, in Harrisburg or in many farflung places. All recognized the fact that BOB WATKINS was unto himself a monumental descriptive man. It will be a long time before

another man of his caliber comes along in this House. We sorely miss him.

Many of the fellows whom one might think are sort of light hearted today are really heavy at heart. Yesterday I was one of those privileged to attend the funeral, with 52 Congressmen from the House who journeyed to Chester to pay their respects.

There is nothing much more than that can be said, I know, except to say this in finality: I know that ROBERT WATKINS is looking at us today. I know he smiled down yesterday and said, "I knew you would be there, my friends."

I knew him not only as a Congressman and a man in the business world but as my steadfast friend of many, many years. I can only say that we have suffered a tremendous loss, of a man we cannot replace.

I only hope that this House will remember the tremendous contribution he made not just to the Members and to the legislative body but also to those little people on the outside to whom he meant so much. This world never knew of the many deeds GEORGE ROBERT WATKINS performed on the outside.

I want to extend my condolences to his lovely wife and to their family and, to my good friend BOB WATKINS, "Good night."

Mr. BRAY. Mr. Speaker, this House is saddened today by the loss of our colleague, the gentleman from Pennsylvania, ROBERT WATKINS.

It is always with great regret that we in the Congress receive news of the passing of one among us. When that colleague has been a great personal friend as well, we are doubly sorrowed.

BOB WATKINS was a personal friend of mine. We had worked together, relaxed together, laughed, and grumbled together. BOB WATKINS was an extraordinary individual, a man with rare personal warmth and charm.

I need not reiterate BOB's record of service for the people, not only of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania but Americans everywhere. These facts are well established, and his deep dedication and devotion to his responsibilities were above question.

I mourn the loss of BOB WATKINS. I mourn his loss from public life, a calling he had accepted for himself many years ago. I mourn his loss from the House of Representatives, where he served so

effectively the people of the Ninth District of Pennsylvania. But greater than these is the personal grief I hold at the loss of a cherished friend. I mourn the loss of our rapport, the great harmony in our relationship.

I pass to his family my deepest and most heartfelt sympathy. I pray that God will grant them serenity in these days.

Mr. MYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise with many other friends of BOB WATKINS not to idolize BOB or to try to raise him above the point that he raised himself to, but with a sense of love.

BOB was a Member of this body for almost 6 years. I am confident that many Members never really learned to know him, but I must honestly say I never saw anyone here who did not have a deep affection and respect for BOB. As has been said before, many Members, including myself, sought out BOB for his advice, because we knew it would be sound and it would be wise and would take into consideration what was best for America.

Mr. Speaker, the reason why many Members did not know BOB was because he was not one of those Members who speak often but was, rather, one who listened and reasoned soundly from his great experience.

BOB was a self-made man. He rose himself from humble parentage and worked and developed himself into one of the leaders of this Nation.

About a month ago I asked BOB WATKINS to be our speaker at prayer breakfast. Some of his friends said, "You will never get BOB to accept an invitation to speak at prayer breakfast." Well, when I asked him, BOB did not hesitate. When he accepted he said, "Sure; I would love to." The morning he spoke he came to me and told me that this was one of the most inspirational experiences, one of the highlights of his life. He gave a most inspirational address. He said that he enjoyed it as much as the experience of serving the Nation in this body.

Mr. Speaker, America is a better place to live in this evening and to raise our children in and this body is a better body and each of us is a better Member because BOB lived and served with us here. So we direct our prayers for his soul and that his family shall be consoled at this time.

Mr. SCHERLE. Mr. Speaker, there are many times in our lives when we feel at a loss for words. I certainly do at this time. I wish I had the ability and the eloquence that so many of my colleagues have shown time and time again on this floor.

I do not think this House, in my humble opinion, in the short time I have been here, ever had a man with the character and integrity of BOB WATKINS. I do not think anyone could ever fill his shoes or fill the place of BOB WATKINS. Never was there a man here who had such an impact on this House, as far as I am concerned. He was real, kind, gentle, and generous. BOB WATKINS never intentionally ever hurt anyone's feelings. I have seen him go out of his way to help some whom he thought had their feelings hurt or injured at some time.

BOB was a remarkable man. He stood tall. Everything he did seemed to be right. He was an inspiration to every one of us. He was a man of humble beginnings and never at any time was he ever pretentious although we all know he had every right to be. He was a success in business, a success in politics, and a success as far as life itself is concerned. Everyone liked BOB WATKINS.

I have never known a man in the Chamber who did not have a kind thing to say about BOB WATKINS. He had friends on both sides of the aisle, and everyone enjoyed his company. We would go out and have dinner, and we did this a number of times, and I was so grateful of having the opportunity of being associated in his pressence.

As I look over there now in that hard corner, that hard core, as many call that right side of the Chamber, BOB WATKINS will always be there as long as I am in this House. I think the inspiration and the dedication that this man gave to this body will never leave this House.

He left a wonderful family, and a wonderful wife. At this time I would like to express my deep sorrow and offer my condolences, and say to his family that as far as I am concerned there is no one whom I will miss more than BOB, and I will remember BOB WATKINS as long as I live.

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, it is very difficult indeed in words to adequately describe the life of our beloved friend, BOB WATKINS. He sounded no trumpets before him, and yet he accomplished much, and his quiet strength was an inspiration to us all. He loved his

country, his colleagues, and the people it was his privilege to represent. He was a man of conviction who believed in something and stood for something. His success in business and in politics was based on the sound foundation of hard work, perseverance, and honest service to the people. His unfailing sense of humor was a source of joy to those around him. He was a man of unimpeachable integrity, of courage, and of genuine humility. BOB WATKINS was a part of the strength of this House, and of our country. He was a man of honest stature, and a public servant fully worthy of the public trust.

Mr. Speaker, those of us who were privileged to know him as a friend knew too of his great faith, a faith that sustained him throughout the long years of his life, throughout hard times and throughout good times, and these years in the House were good times for him. I am supremely confident that that faith was not in vain; that the faith which sustained him in his life here has sustained him in the life beyond. It has been a privilege to know him and to work with him. The House was made richer by his presence, and poorer by his passing. He shall be greatly missed. We, therefore, join in extending our heartfelt sympathy to his loved ones, and share their loss.

Mrs. HECKLER of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I must confess some stunned sadness over the loss of one of my favorite colleagues, BOB WATKINS. I am sure that those who knew him longer than I and knew him better than I have suffered a very great loss, but I think that certainly all of us have felt a loss that is rather unique in this body.

His family indeed deserves and receives the sympathy of the Members of the House, and all of the people who knew BOB WATKINS here and in his district also deserve sympathy, because I know that they will find it difficult to choose a successor equal in any way to his accomplishments. I know further that the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce will also find it difficult to replace a man who, when others were swaying reeds, was a mighty oak who stood fast in his convictions and who at the same time never altered his principles.

Mr. Speaker, I have to confess as well that I feel in remembering BOB WATKINS that I must remember him with a smile throughout the weighty decisions and the crises and the challenges that we feel in this body on so many occasions, and especially today with the great problems our Nation faces. Nevertheless there are the human touches that

lighten the burden, that make the load of every moment more pleasurable, more enjoyable, and more memorable, and Bob Watkins certainly performed this function for me, and for countless others.

How well I recall intruding in his discussions with the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. Hunt) and intruding when he insisted that Congressman Hunt was outdoing him, and asked me to back him against John. And it was at those moments when we were perhaps off the track that I got to enjoy and appreciate a truly superb human being, a really genuine person whose spirit exceeded indeed his expansive size.

It will be hard for those who carry on here to fulfill the responsibilities of that one chair which he so frequently occupied. I wonder who will dare to presume to sit there, to occupy the chair of a man who gave so much solace to all of us.

So, Mr. Speaker, while I join my colleagues to express my great sadness today I also have to confess to his family and to all the Members of the House that I feel very fortunate to have enjoyed the privilege of his friendship, for however brief a time it was, and to say that it has indeed enriched my life.

Perhaps this will be of some consolation to those who have suffered this most grevious loss, especially to his wife who undoubtedly will realize that while he will be missing from us all, he will still be present in that spirit and example and the enrichment that he offered to every human being in this life.

Mr. SMITH of New York. Mr. Speaker, I want to associate myself with the remarks of all those who have spoken and who knew Bob Watkins so well and who will miss him.

A few of us came to the Congress together in 1965 which was a bad year for Republicans as I remember. There were about 20 new Republicans elected in 1964, and we came in together in 1965 and associated ourselves in the 89 Club, the 20 Republicans who came in in that year, which is an organization which still limps along from time to time every Monday night.

There was a long period, because Bob Watkins lives within commuting distance of this Capitol, when he did not appear at the 89 Club meetings on Monday night. There was a long period of time before anybody in our new group had really met Bob. So he became known after a while, before we met him, as the "ghost" because we really did not believe he existed.

Well, finally, of course, we did meet Bob and got to know him and to love him. We found that far from being a ghost, he was solid all the way through—in his beliefs, in character, and in all of the things that he did. We will miss him. He has been a good servant—a good servant to his family—a good servant to his country and to his district and a good servant to his country and to his God.

I know that he has left a splendid heritage to his family of whom he was so proud. They, I am sure, are proud to have had a husband and a dad such as Bob.

We are proud to have had him as one of our colleagues. We shall miss him, but we shall remember him with great affection.

Mr. DAVIS of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I too want to express my appreciation for having known and for having gained a deep affection for Bob Watkins in the 6 years that he served here among us.

Like so many of rather crusty exterior and a very effective sense of humor, Bob Watkins beneath it all was a man with a very warm heart, a deep sense of duty and patriotism and love for his country.

I suppose it could be said that those of us who knew him for such a short time in the span of his years cannot appreciate the part that he played in his home community and among the family of which he was so proud. But I think all of us have been enriched for having known Bob Watkins, for having gained a deep affection and a deep appreciation for the service which he performed here and which he performed for his country. He loved his country with a passion, and was willing to perform his duty as he saw it in order to enhance the interests of his country.

I know that you of the Pennsylvania delegation will miss him, perhaps more than any of the rest of us can assert that we shall miss him. But in these short 6 years he has indeed made a deep impression upon the House of Representatives. He has served his country well, and I know that the number of us here tonight, in the lateness of the hour, testifies to the deep affection that we held for him, and I hope that somehow these less than ample words that we say now will help to ease the grief of his family and his constituents in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, 52 Members of the Congress attended yesterday's funeral services in Chester, Pa., for our late colleague, the Honorable G. Robert Watkins.

Such representation at such a critical moment in this session of the Congress was, in itself, a most significant indication of the high regard with which Bob Watkins was held by his peers and colleagues.

It might well be said, in fact, that such representation constituted the most eloquent of the myriad of eulogies to which voice was given within this body.

I would note, however, that the Reverend John S. Nichols, in final eulogy, revealed that, in planning for death even as Bob Watkins planned his life, he wrote his own epitaph.

It was simple, it was direct and, as Bob saw it, quite obviously, it summed up his most active, diversified, and successful life of personal achievement and public service. Said Bob Watkins in his own epitaph:

I lived life as I saw it. I accepted others as they were.

In consideration of those words which, more than any others, gave insight into the mind, heart, and philosophy of Bob Watkins, it might well be said that, even in death, he gives us much to contemplate most seriously:

I lived life as I saw it. I accepted others as they were.

I have been asked by the clerks of this U.S. House of Representatives at the desk to express their deep sympathy to Bob's wife, Jane, and to his family.

Thank you.

Mr. WAMPLER. Mr. Speaker, I was shocked and grieved to learn of the passing of our beloved friend and colleague, Bob Watkins. Bob Watkins and I had a lot in common. My name immediately preceded his on the call of the roll of the Members of the House of Representatives. Our respective congressional districts were both numbered nine. Our voting records, and particularly on the great issues of the day, were almost identical.

Although Bob Watkins lived most of his life in the great State of Pennsylvania, he was a native of my State of Virginia, and I know Bob Watkins was proud of the State of his native heath, and certainly we in Virginia are proud to call him one of our illustrious sons.

Mr. Speaker, Bob Watkins was truly a Virginia gentleman in the noblest sense of the word. A wise man once said that we never forget

a person in our hearts unless we forget his greatness. If this be true, then surely those of us who were privileged to know BOB WATKINS will never forget him. I do not know how long I will be privileged to serve in the House of Representatives, but it will never be quite the same to me without the presence of BOB WATKINS.

So, Mr. Speaker, I extend my sincere condolences to his lovely wife and to his sons and to the other members of his family and say that I truly loved BOB WATKINS and I shall never forget him.

Mr. GROVER. Mr. Speaker, I was privileged to serve on the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries with BOB WATKINS during the years he was here. It is difficult to add to the accolades and the beautiful eulogies which have been presented here in his memory tonight, but I must say in serving with BOB on the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries in these years and in these times when we were attempting to develop legislation which will be far reaching and preserve the human ecology and the human environment and during these days in which we have been struggling to and have finally come up with a broad, new maritime program; BOB was very effective on that committee in bringing about the new legislation. He was most effective and zealous in his work in ecology and environment.

BOB would sit in the hearings and listen to some of the senior Members question people who were before us in the hearing room. When his turn came, his questions were concise and sharp and effective and they elicited points which had not been brought out before and which, indeed, should have been brought out. He took great pride in his work and was most dedicated to that committee on which I served with him.

But Mr. Speaker, I remember BOB even more for something else, and it was something alluded to by the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. Scherle) when he pointed to the corner of the room where BOB most times would sit during the quorum calls or rollcalls, where we would find a sort of unofficial caucus in that corner of the room—and they were not there because someone else was there, but they were there because BOB was there. The conversion during those slack periods during the rollcalls would be very light—and the attraction was the subtle but warm charisma of BOB, who had a wonderful sense of humor which just sort of captivated us all. In the more serious

moments of debate we would also find a caucus over there of people waiting for the words of wisdom from BOB's many years of experience.

Mr. Speaker, BOB is gone from this Chamber, but as others have said, he will live in our memory, and he will not be forgotten, because his memory will stay with us. It is as if the Lord would send unannounced a disciple into our midst to set examples of brotherhood and human understanding. BOB certainly did that.

Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in extending my condolences to his family.

Mr. MCEWEN. Mr. Speaker, I was one of the small band of Republican Members, that a previous speaker referred to, who first came to this House in the 89th Congress. BOB WATKINS is the first of that group to depart from our scene for the world hereafter. All of us in that group, and the others who have spoken here this evening, as we got to know BOB, found that he grew in our esteem and in our affection.

A prior speaker said that although BOB had a somewhat crusty exterior, or an appearance of a crusty exterior, he was a warm and wonderful and understanding human being. Firm in his convictions, he was free to express them. But he was tolerant, and understanding, and appreciative of the fact that not everyone was of his point of view and conviction on all matters.

He was a man who took pride, and properly so, in what he had accomplished. He believed, as he personified in his own accomplishments, in the virtue of work and attention to his duties.

He was a man who was beloved by all of us; he will be sorely missed. I know, for myself, that I shall never walk by that one corner of this Chamber except I shall think of BOB WATKINS, as he sat there, always with some word of humor or valued comment to make, whenever one stopped to speak to him.

To Mrs. Watkins and the members of his family, I express my deepest sympathy and most sincere condolences.

Mr. RANDALL. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege and an honor to be permitted to participate in this eulogy to BOB WATKINS. As one who usually sits on the other side of the aisle from BOB, I am one who enjoyed many visits with him over yonder in the southwest corner. They call it the hard corner, or the hard core corner.

Through our mutual friends, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. Roudebush), the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. Clancy), and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. Hunt), it was my privilege to engage in many conversations. I can assure the Members that I enjoyed every one of them.

Bob prided himself on being a breeder of thoroughbred horses. I shall never forget him saying at one time that a horse can be a better friend than a lot of men.

Once I told him of a visit to Delaware County, and how I had run into a herd of red cattle, a sort of velvet red, a new breed. He took time to explain the pedigree of those cattle to me, and he told me how this ranch, not far from Philadelphia, incidentally, was owned by some people from the King Ranch of Texas. He went on and remarked about it. He said, "Wasn't that a beautiful sight?" He said, "You know, Bill, there is nothing like being on a ranch like that. It makes you feel like you are closer to God when you are out in the country that way."

While I am not a member of the prayer breakfast, Bob was. I am reliably advised he recently spoke to that breakfast, and my informant tells me his talk was one of the finest ever presented. I believe the reason was because of his deep sincerity and his deep and inspired belief in the Supreme Being.

One characteristic that I shall never forget about Bob was his great sense of humor. No matter how unpleasant the day, or no matter the hour—like some of the days we have put in recently—he would always say to me, "Things just cannot be that bad. Think it over and you will realize things are just not quite as bad as they seem."

I have thought about that a lot. If only more of us had that same attitude we would all be better off.

I am richer for having known Bob, I know that is true for all of us who knew him and loved him.

The fact that 52 Members from both sides of the aisle made the trip to Pennsylvania attested to something more than what we call popularity, to the great respect and high regard we all had for him.

There was a great outpouring of the entire community up there that morning to pay tribute not so much to one who was their Congressman but to one who was their friend.

We will all miss Bob. We will never forget him because he was a

friend to us all, because he followed the creed that to have friends one must conduct himself in a way to be a friend.

We all extend our condolences and sympathy to his good widow and his two fine sons, of whom he was so proud.

May his good soul be at peace and at rest.

Mr. REID of New York. The U.S. House of Representatives has suffered a serious loss.

His sense of humor, his directness, his friendship for one and all was a capacity that few have in this body and which none have equaled.

He will be deeply missed both for the soundness of his judgment and the fine character of his person.

Bob Watkins was a humble man. He stood for the best in America. He always had a kind and friendly word for everyone. His humility was shown by his concern for everyone in this body and above all what he believed in for this Nation and for the world we live in. This body is a better place for his life. Our country is a better country for his living.

To those of us who were privileged to call him friend we will always keep him close to our hearts. While he is physically not present in the House of Representatives, his spirit will always be here as an inspiration to this body and to his countless friends.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to offer my deepest sympathy to his wife, his two sons, his family, the Pennsylvania delegation, his constituency, and the State and Nation which he served so ably and so thoughtfully.

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, as it happens, I came to the Congress with our departed friend, the Honorable Robert Watkins.

He was one of the finest men I have ever known. He was quite a conservative. As we learned, he was born in poverty. He had a very difficult time in his younger years, but by hard work and by intelligence he became an extremely successful man. He was a strict Christian. Bob Watkins was a great believer in the Christian religion. He tried to live it and he did live it. On the 23d of July he spoke to the prayer group. His remarks at that time were well received, most impressive.

Certainly we wish to console his widow and his sons, of whom he was so proud.

Bob Watkins will certainly be missed by the Members of this House.

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I have never seen a finer tribute to any man than that which we have just witnessed here. I think it is most significant that after a hard day of legislative work and at this late hour so many Members have remained to pay tribute to a friend of all of us, Bob Watkins.

Mr. Speaker, I have already paid my respects to this very great friend of mine, and I again thank all the Members who have joined with me today.

Mr. LANDGREBE. Mr. Speaker, yesterday in Chester, Pa., a personification of the American dream was laid to rest. It was at once a sad duty and a great honor for me to attend the funeral of our departed colleague, Bob Watkins.

Bob's story is well known to all of us. Born of humble beginnings in the seaport town of Hampton, Va., he resolved early in life to rise to business prominence by his own hard work and dedication. At the age of 9, he was selling newspapers to the crews of ships anchored in Hampton Roads. Later he became a shipfitter in Newport News.

But in America, a newsboy or a shipfitter can rise to greater heights, if he has the will to do so. Bob Watkins proved that. He migrated to Chester, where he began his own stevedoring firm.

From the docks of Philadelphia, it was a short step to the highways of America. With technological progress, the truck replaced the horse-drawn dray, and Bob Watkins became a small trucker.

He built the Blue Line Transfer Co. into a thriving trucking business and began at a time when other men had despaired, the depression year of 1932. As another Member of this body who has built a trucking business from scratch. I know firsthand the difficulties, the heartaches, the joys and rewards of such a struggle.

In America, a man's success is limited only by the limitations of his own initiative, ambition, and diligence. In only a few nations of this world could the dramatic success story of Bob Watkins be recorded.

The unlimited opportunities of America produced in Bob Watkins a deep sense of gratitude. It was, therefore, inevitable that,

being the kind of man he was, he would want to do something for America in return.

Once established as both a trucking magnate and a breeder of thoroughbred horses, BOB WATKINS began to pay his debt to America's bounty through service in the political arena. This service began at the county and State level—as Delaware County sheriff, as Pennsylvania State senator, and as Delaware County commissioner. It culminated here, in our Nation's Capital.

First elected in 1964, and it was typical of the man that, like the game fish, he swam upstream. Year 1964 was not the best year for a Republican to seek his first term in Congress. But a man who begins a business in 1932 has little to fear from a landslide of the opposition in 1964. He won election and repeated his triumphs by even greater margins in 1966 and 1968.

Drawing on his experience in land and sea transport, BOB WATKINS served as one of the most qualified and respected members of the Committees on Interstate and Foreign Commerce and Merchant Marine and Fisheries. Now that he is gone, his expertise will be sorely missed.

My wife, Helen, and I extend to BOB's widow and family our heartfelt sympathies.

Mr. ROGERS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I wish to join my colleagues in expressing my sincere sorrow at the passing of a personal friend, BOB WATKINS.

BOB has served his country well during his many years of service as a county sheriff, a State senator, a county commissioner, and finally as a Member of the House of Representatives. Along with all of his accomplishments and his distinguished service as a leader and loyal American, we will always remember him for his interest, perseverance, and dedication. He served with distinction on both the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee and the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee. I will always value my association with BOB in these two groups and will continue to remember his many contributions to committee work.

BOB WATKINS' worth never was measured by narrow or partisan standards. He served always as a statesman and not as a politician, thinking the most important thing to consider was the interests of the Nation.

We will miss him in this Chamber and I know the people of the Ninth District of Pennsylvania will miss his leadership.

My wife and I both offer our sympathy in this hour to his wife, Hilda Jane, and his sons, Robert G. and Dwain.

Mr. HALPERN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise to pay final respects to Bob Watkins, an esteemed colleague and great American. The House will long remember the contribution of Representative Watkins to this Chamber, and will long feel the loss of his presence.

A man close to the grassroots from which he came, he brought the experience of a local political leader and businessman to the ongoing national process. His time served as a county sheriff and State senator from 1949 to 1961 prior to his election to the House in 1964 made him a true representative of the people in the Ninth District of Pennsylvania. His entrepreneurial spirit and keen business sense enhanced his position in the workings of the Chamber, especially in the day to day work of the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee and the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee.

Such loyalty to both his constituents and fellow legislators will be a great loss and a dual devotion which will be very hard to match. To his family, his wife, Jane, and their two sons and six grandchildren, I can only express my deepest sympathy and sadness, and to his constituents, I can only hope they will find another representative of equal ability.

Mr. BROTZMAN. Mr. Speaker, one of my great pleasures in this body was to get acquainted with Bob Watkins. I sat next to him in the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee and was impressed by his dedication, his sincerity, and his ability. Even more I appreciated his sparkling sense of humor which he often asserted at some tense moment in committee proceedings. Mrs. Brotzman and I extend our deep sympathy to Mrs. Watkins and the family.

Mr. BROYHILL of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, Bob Watkins was not a Member of this body long. But I know of no one who made a greater personal impact in that time on his fellow Members.

Bob was a genuine person. He was a real person. There was no pretense about him. His relationship and dealings with his fellow

Members was always in a straightforward manner. His opinions were always briefly and concisely stated.

Bob was a good friend to me and to many more. He always had a friendly word of welcome when you saw him in the House Chamber or in committee.

He was a man of courage. He always thought of his country first—not himself or his party—but his country, of which he was justly proud. His country which gave him such unparalleled opportunity to succeed. He was a man of firm conviction and dedicated service.

I was proud to call him my friend.

Mr. DERWINSKI. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I join the Members of the House in paying tribute to our late colleague, the Honorable G. Robert Watkins of Pennsylvania.

Bob was a truly dedicated public servant who ably represented the Ninth Congressional District of Pennsylvania, having formerly been a county sheriff and commissioner, and a Pennsylvania State senator for three terms. In addition, he brought firsthand knowledge to his committee assignments—on the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee and the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee—having had experience in both the shipping and trucking industry before becoming an elected official. Indeed, Bob was a dear, warm, personal friend whose dry wit and gentlemanly nature was appreciated by us all and he will certainly be long missed as an individual.

Mrs. Derwinski joins me in extending our deepest sympathy to his wife and sons.

Mr. O'NEILL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, the death of a great friend and colleague, Bob Watkins, is indeed a loss to each of us. He was truly a man who lived the American dream. From his humble beginnings, his hard work, ambition, and enthusiasm brought him to the high ranks of Government.

Bob Watkins' friendliness was extended to every Member of Congress. He knew each Member by name and was a friend to people of all political philosophies. His warmth and good will infused us all with hope and optimism.

Bob and I often voted on opposite sides of issues, but we had great respect for each other.

The Congressman from Pennsylvania was truly a dedicated public servant. He represented his district faithfully and well. His unrelent-

ing efforts to serve his constituency, and his dedication to principle marked his service in the House. He was a diligent worker in committee, and an untiring advocate of that in which he believed.

We will miss BOB WATKINS in the House of Representatives. I am sure that he will long be remembered here for his many contributions. My sympathy is extended to his family.

Mr. CLANCY. Mr. Speaker, with the untimely passing of BOB WATKINS, a number of us lost a close friend; the House and the Nation lost a truly dedicated American. He was a man of great ability, deeply committed to serving his country.

We were most fortunate to know BOB. We had the greatest admiration for him as a man, as an American, and as a leader. He was a warm and humorous man who enjoyed a rapport with virtually everyone who knew him. BOB was a great man, but more importantly, he was a good man. He was truly devoted to his fine family. BOB not only brought honor to the State he represented but to all of us who had the pleasure of serving with him in the Congress of the United States.

His passing leaves a great empty space in my life and in the lives of his loved ones and friends. A thousand cherished memories will help to ease this loss and fill the void his absence brings. We are all truly fortunate that we will have the recollection of these happy experiences shared with BOB. We were always proud and delighted to partake in his wonderful friendship.

I know, Mr. Speaker, that each one of us here today joins in extending heartfelt sympathy to his beloved wife and family.

Mr. DEL CLAWSON. Mr. Speaker, the entire back row was unoccupied on the Republican side of the aisle during the first quorum call of the House of Representatives on Monday, August 10, 1970.

Not only for the first time was BOB WATKINS' name omitted from the call, but the vacant seat of his favorite place on the House floor visibly dramatized his absence and the tragic loss of our beloved colleague. "Honest BOB WATKINS," the third-person, self-reference he enjoyed using, leaves an irreplaceable void in the Congress. Congressman WATKINS "built his house upon a rock" and the foundation of his love of home, community, and country never failed. His deep-seated faith in America frequently surfaced in his private and

public discussions. The successes achieved in his own life were revealed as humble examples of the opportunities available to every man in this land of liberty. "Self-made" is truly descriptive of this friend of mankind. One of BOB'S humorous expressions about the lack of so-called intellectual achievement was that he was a "high school putout," recognizing again the "self-made" description of his life. In serious reflections BOB WATKINS humbly voiced appreciation for the association in the Congress of his colleagues, often "wondering" out loud why the good Lord had blessed him with this honor. At times he was openly emotional in his patriotic praise for the United States and condemnation for her detractors. It was only necessary to point to his own life to support his argument that America offers unlimited opportunity for success to any individual who is willing to make the necessary effort. Friendships were valuable to BOB and easily made if loyally given. His generosity was exceeded only by his great heart and love of fellow men. Many in all walks of life, the high and the lowly, have been the beneficiaries of his beneficence.

A noble American, a friend and colleague, has left us, but his memory will endure and our soft-toned references will recall the pleasant associations and occasions spent with BOB.

May his wife and family find solace in the spiritual values held by her husband and their father and in the efforts of all of us in sharing their loss. We pray that a Divine Providence will bless and console them in this period of bereavement. Their loss is our loss.

Mr. BYRNE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, Pennsylvania has lost a dedicated and faithful public servant; the House of Representatives has lost a hard working and effective Member; and I have lost a deep, warm, personal friend with the death of G. ROBERT WATKINS.

I was shocked to hear of BOB'S sudden death last Friday. It was only a day since seeing him on the floor of this body.

I had known BOB since 1934 and had the privilege of serving with him in the Pennsylvania Legislature and for more than 5 years in the Congress.

I feel qualified to say he was a dedicated public servant throughout his entire public career—as sheriff of Delaware County, Pa., for 4 years; as a State senator for 12 years; as Delaware County commis-

sioner for 4 years; in addition to his three terms in the House of Representatives.

In his private life, BOB was an example of what a determined man can do. Born in poverty, BOB worked long and strenuously to make himself a wealthy man and a respected citizen.

Yet BOB was an extremely charitable man. He never expected you to make the same sacrifices he himself had made. I never heard BOB speak ill of anyone, and I think you will agree this is quite an accomplishment for a man in political life.

Let those inclined to speak disdainfully of "politicians" look to BOB WATKINS. BOB's word was his bond, and his word was never doubted by anyone. So few people in this world can lay claim to this trust.

My wife, Virginia, joins me in extending our heartfelt sympathy to BOB's beloved wife, Hilda Jane, and his sons, Robert G. and Dwain Joseph.

It is my earnest prayer the good Lord will reward BOB for his many good deeds performed while here on earth.

Mr. ESHLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, like all of his colleagues, I was shocked and deeply saddened by the death of my Pennsylvania neighbor, G. ROBERT WATKINS.

Our loss of BOB WATKINS was a special one for me. I first served with him in the Pennsylvania General Assembly. There I knew him to be a conscientious public servant, an impression which was reinforced when we became colleagues again in the 90th Congress. Throughout these periods of mutual service, I valued his friendship and often his counsel.

The American dream certainly applies to BOB WATKINS' record as a successful businessman and a respected public official. He was 9 years old when he started selling newspapers in Newport News, Va., and still in high school when he became an apprentice shipfitter. It was also during his youth that he excelled as an athlete, pitching semipro baseball for $10 a game. In 1936, after several previous business associations, he organized the Blue Line Transfer Co., which today operates hundreds of trucks throughout the eastern portion of the Nation.

BOB WATKINS' distinguished service as a Congressman from Pennsylvania's Ninth District was the culmination of a long dedication to public service.

In the public arena, his career began 29 years ago when he was appointed to the Delaware County Prison Board in Pennsylvania. His first elective office was Delaware County sheriff. Later he was elected county commissioner, State senator, and finally U.S. Representative.

Our country benefited from BOB WATKINS' love of it and his service to it. We mourn his passing and extend to his wife and his family our heartfelt sympathy.

Mr. PELLY. Mr. Speaker, I was saddened to learn of the sudden death of Representative G. ROBERT WATKINS, who was a Member of Congress since 1964 and of my committee, the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee.

During his three terms in the Congress, BOB won our admiration and respect and held a warm spot in the hearts of all his colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, only recently he celebrated his 50th wedding anniversary and when I congratulated him he said it was the happiest day of his life. He said he had married the most wonderful girl he had ever known and was the luckiest man alive.

BOB had many friends and I was fortunate to be one of them. He will be greatly missed and I know that those of us who knew him are grateful that we did. No one who was his friend will ever forget his cheerful ways and great sense of humor, nor will his contribution in the Congress be forgotten.

I extend my deep sympathy to his widow and loved ones.

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to join with other Members of the House in paying my respects to the memory of our colleague BOB WATKINS.

He was a likeable individual, kind and considerate, and yet a person who did not hesitate to take a position he considered to be in the best interest of his constituents and his country.

Certainly, we will miss him in the House and I know all of us want to extend our sympathy to his widow and family. He was dedicated to what was best for America and men of his caliber are needed in the Congress. We mourn the loss of this great and good man.

Mr. MATSUNAGA. Mr. Speaker, it is with a sense of deep loss and sorrow that I join my colleagues in eulogizing the memory of a great American, BOB WATKINS.

In the relatively short time that BOB WATKINS spent in this Chamber and in the Halls of Congress, he made many friends on both sides

of the aisle. He always seemed to carry about with him an air of cheerfulness which invited friendship.

Bob Watkins will be missed sorely by his colleagues, by his constituents, his State, and Nation, all of whom he served so well. He leaves behind him a record of accomplishments of which his family can rightfully be proud, and which will serve as an inspiration to those who will follow him.

While I realize that the grief over the sudden and unexpected loss of one so dear must be almost unbearable, if not unbelievable, I do hope that his beloved widow and other members of his family will find some solace in the fact that there are many who share in their great loss and deep sorrow.

As one who was privileged to gain his friendship, I extend my deepest sympathy and heartfelt condolences to his surviving widow and family. May the blessings of the Almighty be upon them in their bereavement.

Tuesday, *October 6, 1970.*

Mr. ASHBROOK. Mr. Speaker, few men passed through these Halls who was any more liked than my beloved friend, Bob Watkins of Pennsylvania. His passing created a void which is impossible to fill. I was happy to be included in a small circle of his close friends here in the Capitol and I can honestly say that I liked him better than any other legislator who has come along in the 14 years I have been in politics.

He was an excellent story teller. His stories always had a moral, like an Aesop fable. He was a self-made man, devoted to his ideals and his country. That he should be struck down in life before he had a chance to retire and enjoy the fruits of his life's work must count as a tragedy. Yet, Bob would be philosophic about that. He never got upset and never had an unkind word to say about his fellow man.

This world would be a much better place, Mr. Speaker, if there were more men like G. Robert Watkins of Pennsylvania. Sadly, there are very few.

Perhaps one statement, in Bob's own words, tells it all about his philosophy and his life. Tucked away in almost 200 pages of im-

pressive biographies of Members of Congress are these words: "First business, when 9 years of age, was selling newspapers to the crews of vessels anchored in the harbor." The personal initiative and responsibility which motivated BOB WATKINS at such an early age carried through his adult life, and his approach to problems whether in business life, politics, or elsewhere was studied, direct, and forceful.

BOB WATKINS first saw the light of day around the turn of this century in Hampton, Va. He left high school and learned the trade of shipfitter in Newport News and moved to Chester, Pa., at the age of 18. At a comparatively early age he formed and headed the Chester Stevedoring Co., the first of his two successful business ventures. Later, in 1932, he organized, with a partner, the Blue Line Transfer Co., which was to blossom into an operation serving all points in the East with hundreds of trucks. Despite his lack of an extensive educational background—he often referred to himself as "a high school putout"—his personal qualities gained public attention and his first public service to the community came in the form of a 4-year term as sheriff of Delaware County.

He was later to serve in the Pennsylvania State Senate for 12 years and for 4 years as county commissioner. BOB's service on the national level began with his election to the 89th Congress in November 1964, followed by his reelection to succeeding Congresses.

Like others of a robust nature, BOB found release from life's daily problems in his love of horses, and from 1937 his avocation was the breeding of thoroughbreds for racing. He liked people, Mr. Speaker, and I count it as an accomplishment in life that I was one of those he chose to like. I dearly loved him and extend my sincere sympathies to his family.

MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

IN THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ADDRESS BY HON. EDWARD A. GARMATZ

OF MARYLAND

Mr. Speaker, the sudden death of our colleague, ROBERT WATKINS, is a shock to those of us who worked so closely with him here in Congress. Since his election to the House of Representatives in November 1964, he has been a member of our House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries, and he served with distinction on the Subcommittee on Panama Canal and the Subcommittee on Coast Guard, Coast and Geodetic Survey, and Navigation. He was also the ranking minority member of the Special Subcommittee on Maritime Education and Training.

Congressman WATKINS was admirably qualified to serve on the Merchant Marine Committee, from a standpoint of both background and ability. He was a self-made man, and it seems somehow appropriate that—at the age of 9—he sold newspapers to the crews of vessels anchored in his native port of Hampton Roads, Va. Through the ensuing years, he gained broad business experience, and successfully established a stevedoring business and then a very large trucking and transfer company.

This close association with various segments of transportation gave Congressman WATKINS an insight into that industry which proved invaluable during his tenure on the Merchant Marine Committee; his broad background enabled him to understand the many problems of the complex maritime industry, and the many bills he sponsored in Congress—which were referred to the Merchant Marine Committee—were instrumental in helping to formulate national maritime policies.

Congressman WATKINS also had many years of experience as a public servant—on a State and local, as well as Federal level. He held many responsible positions, including that of county sheriff, State senator, and county commissioner.

But in addition to his many talents, Congressman WATKINS was—above all else—a very warm and compassionate man. Both his talents

and his warmth will be missed by his many colleagues in Congress.

Speaking for myself, and for all the members of the Merchant Marine Committee, I wish to extend to Mrs. Watkins and their sons our heartfelt sympathy.

ADDRESS BY HON. J. IRVING WHALLEY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

Mr. Speaker, it was with deep sorrow and a sense of personal grief that I learned of the passing of our good friend, colleague, and fellow Pennsylvanian, G. ROBERT WATKINS of the Ninth District of Pennsylvania.

BOB was one of the kindest of men, and his quick smile and warm personality will be sadly missed by all those who had the privilege and pleasure to know him.

BOB WATKINS distinguished himself not only in these Halls, but in each endeavor that he has ever undertaken.

Profiting from the wealth of knowledge and experience he earned in his walk through life, BOB WATKINS excelled as sheriff and county commissioner in his home county of Delaware, Pa., as senator in the Pennsylvania State Senate at Harrisburg; as legislator in these hallowed Halls; and as husband and father at home.

I have had the personal privilege and pleasure to serve with BOB both in the Pennsylvania State Legislature and in the U.S. Congress. In both bodies, BOB contributed immensely and left an indelible mark.

His deep sense of patriotism, his intense conviction to the ideals for which he strived, and his tremendous practical abilities, earned for him the admiration and respect of all. He was spun from the rarest of fibers.

Mrs. Whalley and I extend our deepest condolences to Mrs. Watkins and their two sons. He will be sadly missed by all, but his spirit and the warmth of his life will remain with us forever.

ADDRESS BY HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN

OF TENNESSEE

Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute today to a man whom I greatly respected, the late Honorable G. ROBERT WATKINS.

I was very sorry to learn of the death of our colleague last Friday and my prayers and condolences go with his widow and children.

BOB came to Congress the same year as I and somehow there is always a greater bond between those who entered in the same "class." He was a wonderful person to me, a very kind man, and a gentleman respected and loved by all who knew him.

Not only was BOB a hard-working legislator, but he was successful in all endeavors which he tackled. He was a very successful businessman, a community leader, a family man, and a kind servant of the public.

We will miss him greatly, yet he has left us with fond memories and with good examples to follow.

ADDRESS BY HON. ROBERT McCLORY

OF ILLINOIS

Mr. Speaker, it is with deep personal sadness that I pause to pay tribute to my late esteemed colleague, Congressman G. ROBERT WATKINS, of Pennsylvania.

I have observed this reserved and conscientious gentleman during the years that we have served together in the House of Representatives. In addition, I have been aware of the broad background of experience which preceded his conscientious and useful service in the House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, recently I had occasion to hear Congressman BOB WATKINS speak at a meeting of our congressional prayer group. It would not be appropriate to discuss the subject of his remarks. However, I want to say in all sincerity that Congressman BOB WATKINS revealed a great sense of spiritual faith and understanding. The genuine goodness of BOB WATKINS came through as he spoke with

full candor and humility—and his remarks touched deeply all who had the privilege of hearing him.

I know that BOB WATKINS' home has always been an abode of love and devotion. His pride in his wife and children are characteristic of one so richly endowed with spiritual as well as material blessings.

Mrs. McClory joins me in extending deepest sympathy to Mrs. Watkins and to other members of the family.

ADDRESS BY HON. CHALMERS P. WYLIE

OF OHIO

Mr. Speaker, I had intended to participate in the special order paying tribute to BOB WATKINS taken yesterday by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. Goodling). As frequently happens in this business, a constituent problem came up and before it could be resolved, the House had adjourned. I would be remiss if I did not take the opportunity of this forum to pay tribute publicly to this fine person. I told him once that he reminded me of my own father, who lost his father at an early age.

BOB WATKINS was a high school "putout," as he used to say of himself. He worked hard, loved life, and died with his boots on. He is, I fear, a vanishing breed of American.

BOB WATKINS is a classic example of the American dream becoming a reality for those with courage, persistence, and willingness to work. Much has been said of his early beginning and his rise to become the head of one of the largest transportation companies in the United States. This would be a success story in and of itself.

His friends persuaded him to enter public life, and his exemplary service can be seen by all accounts as a sheriff, county commissioner, a State senator, and a Member of Congress. In other words, whenever he undertook a venture, he rose to the top.

He also rose to the top as a person. His extraordinary sense of humor interspersed his serious, conscientious nature so that he was a person who was naturally liked by everyone.

It was a great privilege for me to meet, know, and break bread frequently, with this fine man. I feel a profound sense of loss which words cannot adequately express. I extend my deepest sympathy to his family and loved ones. It is some conciliation to those near Bob that this country is a better place because he lived here.

ADDRESS BY HON. JAMES M. COLLINS

OF TEXAS

Mr. Speaker, it came as a shock and complete surprise to learn of the death of Bob Watkins. When I came back to Washington, I learned that Bob had died suddenly over the weekend.

Last week Bob was with us on the House floor. He had his usual dynamic spirit and definite ideas on every issue that came on the floor.

To lose a friend so quickly brings in sharp the realities of this world. Bob was a fine man. He was honest, sincere, and straightforward.

Bob Watkins was a man of strong courage and conviction. If the issue was rough and the political implications were heavy, he never hesitated. He voted right and he never equivocated. The U.S. Congress lost a great man when Bob Watkins passed away.

From the bottom of my heart, I extend sincerest sympathy to the entire Watkins family.

ADDRESS BY HON. WILLIAM B. WIDNALL

OF NEW JERSEY

Mr. Speaker, many of us view the sometimes uncertain and bleakly appearing future with a humorless demeanor. When the problems of our world are weighed against the prospects for solution, the assessment is often discontenting. Bob Watkins showed us that problems

still were solvable when approached in an atmosphere that combined a generous mix of humor and friendliness with the solemnity of the cloakroom and the committee room.

Perhaps BOB WATKINS learned this easy going approach to difficult problems while he developed his own stevedore operation while in his twenties, or while he built a successful trucking company during the depression.

He was a very productive and respected Member. He earned this reputation with a low key, good humored manner that made him not feared but beloved.

His gentleness may have been honed from caring for thoroughbred horses these past three decades, or leading employees in two prosperous business ventures. At any rate, BOB WATKINS knew how to treat people well, to make them feel comfortable and best of all, to lift spirits when they were down. He is a model to all people, showing that one need not be feisty and disagreeable to be a success.

We will very much miss the wit and ease of BOB WATKINS. To his wife and sons, I wish to extend my deepest sympathy in their bereavement.

ADDRESS BY HON. R. LAWRENCE COUGHLIN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

Mr. Speaker, I offer my deepest condolences to the family of Congressman G. ROBERT WATKINS whose passing is mourned by his colleagues in the House.

There are too many things in the life of a man to sum up in a few words and this is especially so for a man such as BOB WATKINS. I will remember him for many things, but one thing in particular always will remind me of BOB WATKINS.

In the busy world of the Congress, too often the predominant theme for a younger Member of the House seems to be the discouraging word. BOB WATKINS, a man with a long and successful career in politics and business, indeed was the marked exception to the discouraging word.

Because with Bob Watkins, it was the encouraging word.

I valued his friendship and admired his empathy in going out of his way to say a kind word, an encouraging word about what I was doing or how I was voting. This to me typified Bob Watkins so that he truly stood as a big man in the finest sense of that description.

In his life, Bob Watkins demonstrated that he lived what he believed America to be. From humble beginnings, he worked starting as a teenager and by dint of his industriousness and ability acquired material success in the business world.

But his vision was far beyond this. Bob Watkins accepted the challenge of public service and soon matched his success in the business world with an outstanding political career.

Bob Watkins served as a county sheriff, a county commissioner, a State senator, and a U.S. Representative. His life was filled with the activities of a dedicated public official, yet he never neglected his family or his pursuits as a sportsman.

Whether as a young baseball player or a breeder of thoroughbred horses, Bob Watkins possessed a zest for these pursuits that was so much in evidence in the way he lived.

Bob Watkins lived a full and active life up until the very moment he died. We can find solace in this even though we are so saddened and distressed by his sudden passing.

But, perhaps even more than the monumental legacy he leaves in the political and business world, is the very personal legacy that he bequeaths us.

For Bob Watkins demonstrated as he went through life that the basic attributes of man's best nature are the ones that long will be remembered when the achievements of the material world are consigned to newspaper files and warehouse records:

A generous heart. A bubbling sense of humor. A warm and engaging personality. A compassion for others. A sense of sincere camaraderie. A cheerfulness and friendliness. All these finest traits and more are the legacy that Bob Watkins leaves us.

His life was gentle, and the elements So mix'd in him that Nature might stand up And say to all the world, "This was a Man!"

—*Shakespeare.*

ADDRESS BY HON. WILLIAM S. MAILLIARD

OF CALIFORNIA

Mr. Speaker, the House of Representatives once again has been shocked by the sudden death of one of our colleagues. The passing of the Honorable G. ROBERT WATKINS is a tragic loss to our Nation and has deeply saddened those of us who worked with him in this Congress.

Congressman WATKINS began life in humble surroundings and rose to positions of leadership in the field of business. His experience in the shipfitting and interstate trucking businesses prepared him well for service in the House of Representatives on the Committees on Merchant Marine and Fisheries, and Interstate and Foreign Commerce. In both of these fields, he was an expert by interest and experience.

Mr. Speaker, the Congress will truly miss not only the expertise, but also the great personal warmth of G. ROBERT WATKINS.

My wife joins me in extending to Mrs. Watkins and their sons our deepest sympathy in this time of sorrow.

ADDRESS BY HON. GARNER E. SHRIVER

OF KANSAS

Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in paying tribute to the late gentleman from Pennsylvania, the Honorable G. ROBERT WATKINS. The House has lost a sincere, friendly, and capable Member whose service and dedication to duty has been recognized as outstanding. I greatly value my association with BOB WATKINS in the House of Representatives and I have always admired his friendly, happy, and courteous manner. BOB WATKINS was a man of genuine character and stature. We regret his untimely passing and our prayerful sympathy goes out to his wife and family in this hour of darkness and sorrow.

ADDRESS BY HON. MARIO BIAGGI

OF NEW YORK

Mr. Speaker, I want to join with my colleagues in expressing my deep sense of loss at the sudden death of ROBERT WATKINS of Pennsylvania. The fact that he died while actively engaged in the work he has loved for the last 6 years is indicative of the kind of man he was.

His philosophy was one of service. His first business enterprise at age 9 was selling newspapers. In his later years he established a trucking business that eventually operated hundreds of trucks in all parts of the eastern United States.

While in this body, his aid and assistance could always be counted upon by the people around him. It has been a personal privilege for me, especially as a newcomer, to work with him on the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee and in Congress.

I am sure his death will be a great loss not only to his family and his constituency, but also to his country.

ADDRESS BY HON. WILLIAM T. MURPHY

OF ILLINOIS

Mr. Speaker, it was with great sorrow that I learned of the death of our colleague, the Honorable G. ROBERT WATKINS from Pennsylvania.

Representative WATKINS was a man who devoted the majority of his lifetime to public service. He began his career as sheriff of Delaware County, Pa., then served as a State senator for 12 years and county commissioner before coming to the House of Representatives in 1965. During his three terms in the House, his personality and his work earned him the respect and admiration of his colleagues. The dedicated and conscientious manner with which he served the House and the people of the Ninth District of Pennsyl-

vania will be greatly missed by those of us who knew and worked with him.

Mrs. Murphy joins me in extending our deepest sympathy to his wife and two sons. We hope that their sorrow may be eased by the knowledge that he lived a successful and fulfilling life.

ADDRESS BY HON. JOHN J. ROONEY

OF NEW YORK

Mr. Speaker, the passing of the Honorable G. Robert Watkins came as a severe shock to us all because we knew him as such a warm human being. He was a man of great integrity and honor and though we voted differently on many phases of legislation, I had nothing but the deepest admiration and respect for him. He loved life and lived it fully and by doing so made life for those around him that much better.

Life was not always easy for Bob, perhaps that is why he savored it so much. He started earning his way at 9, selling newspapers aboard ships tied up in his then hometown of Newport News. He went on to form his own longshoring and trucking company. He entered politics and in time was sheriff, State senator, county commissioner, and finally U.S. Representative in Congress. Bob was a hard-working and productive Member of the House and we shall all miss his presence. To his wife and family I extend my deepest sympathy in their sad bereavement.

ADDRESS BY HON. CARLETON J. KING

OF NEW YORK

Mr. Speaker, because of my recent hospitalization, I was unable to participate in the many fine tributes paid to our late colleague, the Honorable G. Robert Watkins of Pennsylvania. I was indeed

shocked and saddened to learn of the sudden death of my good friend who I will always consider one of the most likable persons I have ever known. Bob Watkins was a man's kind of man and his word was always his bond. Not only was he an outstanding public servant, he was a successful businessman, a successful sportsman, and a successful leader. He possessed a certain quality of human understanding, working hard to help his fellow man to make this a better world in which to live. Those of us who knew Bob Watkins well, considered him a great American and a great gentleman and no man could ever hope for a finer epitaph. I most sincerely count it as a privilege and an honor to have served in the same Congress in which he served.

Mr. Speaker, Bob Watkins' untimely death has created a void in the 91st Congress. We are comforted, however, in the knowledge that he lives in the minds and hearts of all of us who served with him.

Mrs. King joins me in extending to his wife and beloved family our deepest and sincerest sympathy.

ADDRESS BY HON. DAN ROSTENKOWSKI

OF ILLINOIS

Mr. Speaker, a very great and good man passed away last summer, a man who was truly a man of the people he represented. I believe that is how Bob Watkins will be remembered, as one who gave of himself, heart and soul, all of his life following the Gospel's plea to "love thy neighbor." He will be remembered not only for what he was—a kind man, beloved by all who knew him for his warmth and loyalty, and for his sensitivity to the needs and feelings of others.

Bob Watkins' sense of humor, his directness, his friendship for one and all, were capacities that few of us in this body have, and certainly none of us have exceeded.

Bob Watkins' sudden passing leaves us with a void that will not be easily filled. The people of the Ninth District of Pennsylvania have lost a great leader and we all have lost a fine friend. Mr. Speaker, for my wife La Verne and myself, I would like to offer my deepest sympathy to Congressman Watkins' wife and two sons.

PROCEEDINGS

IN THE

UNITED STATES SENATE

Proceedings in the Senate

TUESDAY, *August 11, 1970.*

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. President, I ask that the Chair lay before the Senate a message from the House of Representatives on House Resolution 1183.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. Dominick) laid before the Senate House Resolution 1183 which was read as follows:

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of the Honorable G. ROBERT WATKINS, a Representative from the State of Pennsylvania.

Resolved, That a committee of sixty-three Members of the House, with such Members of the Senate as may be joined, be appointed to attend the funeral.

Resolved, That the Sergeant at Arms of the House be authorized and directed to take such steps as may be necessary for carrying out the provisions of these resolutions and that the necessary expenses in connection therewith be paid out of the contingent fund of the House.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That as a further mark of respect the House do now adjourn.

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. President, I submit a resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

There being no objection, the resolution (S. Res. 441) was considered and unanimously agreed to, as follows:

SENATE RESOLUTION 441

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow the announcement of the death of Hon. G. ROBERT WATKINS, late a Representative from the State of Pennsylvania.

Resolved, That a committee of two Senators be appointed by the Presiding Officer to join the committee appointed on the part of the House of Representatives to attend the funeral of the deceased Representative.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit an enrolled copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, the Senate do now recess.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the second resolving clause, the Chair appoints the two distinguished Senators from the State of Pennsylvania (Mr. Scott and Mr. Schweiker) as the committee on the part of the Senate to join the committee from the House to attend the funeral of the late Representative WATKINS.

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